



The Village Record

The Newsletter of
Village of Flat Rock
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June 2007

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Ray E. Shaw, Jr.

The Village, by resolution, has agreed to allow Henderson County to enforce a Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance in Flat Rock. The cost of the program will be borne by those developing property. The State had previously enforced their ordinance but lack of personnel made the actual enforcement unsatisfactory. The effective date of this enforcement will be October 1, 2007.

The Village recently signed a contract with Rhea Consulting, Inc. to review our ordinances and determine what modifications may be needed to protect the beauty and to adequately deal with growth in Flat Rock. The need for this was brought to the attention of the Council by members of Historic Flat Rock. A committee has been established to oversee the work of the contractor. Public meetings will be held to get input from our residents. The project is expected to take about 6 months to complete. Historic Flat Rock is a partner with the Village in this project.

Like other municipalities, the Village is working on the budget for 2007-2008. New property valuations have been mailed to property owners by the County. We are not far enough along to determine just exactly what the property rate will be but it should be around 7.5 cents as compared to the current 8.5 cents. This, of course, means a slightly higher tax bill this fall. The increase is due primarily to the increase cost of fire protection from the three fire departments that furnish fire protection to the Village. Another increasing cost is payments that the Village must make to Henderson County. These two line items consume 50% of the Village budget.

The budget will likely be adopted at the regularly scheduled council meeting on June 14, but in any event, no later than June 30. Citizens are invited to attend to ask questions and to provide their comments on the proposed budget.

Finally, please plan to attend Celebrate Flat Rock Ice Cream Social on Saturday, June 2 from noon until 4:00 PM. This year a larger celebration than usual is planned as the Flat Rock community celebrates 200

years. See more about this later in the newsletter.

Have a nice Spring.

CELEBRATE FLAT ROCK 2007

Plans are progressing nicely for the *Celebrate Flat Rock 2007* event to be held on **Saturday, June 2, 2007**, from noon to 4:00 PM on the grounds of the Village Hall, the adjoining Blue Ridge Volunteer Fire & Rescue property, and throughout the village center. The Village of Flat Rock and Historic Flat Rock, Inc. are joining forces to present a grand celebration that will couple the Village's annual Ice Cream Social with the commemoration of 200 years of Flat Rock history.

The Flat Rock Merchants Association, Blue Ridge Fire & Rescue and other community organizations and individuals are also involved in the planning of the celebration that, as in the past, will be a festival of fun, music, art, children's entertainment, and storytelling. The tradition of free ice cream will continue, and hotdogs, other food and drinks will be available for purchase. The three fire departments serving Flat Rock will again showcase their latest fire engines and emergency medical vehicles and equipment. In addition, a number of Flat Rock merchants will have special events for the day. The National Park Service will conduct four walking tours of the Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site at 10:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 2:00 PM and 3:00 PM. St. John in the Wilderness will be open for visitors during the day. The Flat Rock Playhouse will present matinee and evening performances of *Taking a Chance on Love*, a comedy set in the south. It will truly be a busy but fun-filled day.

Mark your calendar and join your friends and neighbors on June 2 to celebrate Flat Rock's history. In the event of rain, the event will be held on Sunday, June 3, from noon to 4:00 PM.

FLAT ROCK BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, June 2 Noon—4:00 PM

The Village of Flat Rock is celebrating its bicentennial this spring. The annual Village Ice Cream Social will couple with the commemoration of 200 years of Flat Rock history. Though Flat Rock was first inhabited by the Cherokee and the pioneer settlers who obtained land grants, the "Great Flat Rock" first appeared in public land records in 1807. It is therefore appropriate that this be considered the official beginning of the use of the name of Flat Rock, and that we celebrate the bicentennial in 2007.

The unique village, packed with historic sites and scenic by-ways, is often referred to as "Little Charleston of the Mountains" because of the many Charleston residents who built summer homes here beginning in 1827. Around 30 of these homes are still standing. Flat Rock is a National Register of Historic Places District, and is home to the State Theatre of North Carolina (The Flat Rock Playhouse) and the Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site.

The Flat Rock Bicentennial Celebration Committee, appointed by the Flat Rock Village Council, announces the following events:

The Flat Rock Bicentennial Celebration will be held **Saturday, June 2** and will include a number of activities: (RAIN DATE, SUNDAY JUNE 3—NOON TO 4 PM). ****Please bring a lawn chair and leave your pets at home.**

The Ice Cream Social will be held from noon to 4 PM, on the grounds of the Flat Rock Village Hall. Free ice cream, both sugar-free and regular, will be available in a variety of flavors. Four hours of entertainment are scheduled, including individual musical artists, the Kenmure Chorus, storytellers, face painting and clowns. Fire departments and rescue squads from the area will also be available for an expanded version of this annual social. Hot dogs, food and drinks will be available for purchase, as well as bicentennial T-shirts. Storyboards highlighting Flat Rock history will be on display. The events will be held at Blue Ridge Fire and Rescue, Village Hall, the Historic Old Post Office, Singleton Centre, Rainbow Row, and Flat Rock Post Office building. Co-chairs of the social are Bob Staton and Lee Luebbe. Emcees will be Randy Houston and Tiffany Ervin.

Schedule of entertainment and events:

On the porch of Village Hall

- 12:15 PM—Kenmure Chorus
- 1:15 PM—Tom Fisch, Songwriter and singer
- 2:15 PM—Anon Dixon Day, plays and sings Boogie and Blues
- 3:15 PM—Mark Janney and Charlie Frame—music of the 60's

In Village Hall:

- 1:00 PM—Louise Bailey
- 2:00 PM—Karen Eve
- 3:00 PM—Virginia Newsom

On the grounds and nearby:

- * Historic Flat Rock—history story boards, Christmas ornaments, books by Galen Reuther
- * Clowns at large: Dick Timmerman, Brenda Pace
- * Face Painting: Tania Battista, Brenda Pace
- * Flat Rock Bicentennial T-shirts Booth—\$15—to benefit YouTheatre
- * Blue Ridge Fire and Rescue
- * Hot Dog Booth
- * Expressions! Photography
- * Flat Rock Guitar
- * Flat Rock Wine Shoppe
- * Book Exchange (Old Post Office)
- * Diamond Rush
- * Little Rainbow Row
- * Funky Bungalow Mosaic Company

**CONCERT TO BENEFIT FLAT ROCK
PLAYHOUSE YOUTHEATRE
JUNE 18, 2007**

Grammy-winner Jim Lauderdale will appear in a special fundraising concert on Monday, June 18 at the Flat Rock Playhouse at 8:15 PM. The event, sponsored by the Flat Rock Merchants Association, is part of the village's bicentennial celebration.

Lauderdale is no stranger to Flat Rock or to the Playhouse, having spent summers at his parents' Bonclarken home. He also worked at the theater with Leona Farquhar. The creative atmosphere at the Playhouse may have sparked an interest in the performing

arts. Lauderdale is best known to patrons at Flat Rock Playhouse for his role as George Jones in *Stand by your Man: The Tammy Wynette Story*. The Playhouse and the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, Tennessee, co-produced the world premiere of the play in 2001.

Lauderdale's other accolades include nominations for three Grammy Awards. He won a Grammy Award with Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys for "Lost in the Lonesome Pines", the Bluegrass Album of the Year in 2002. He was also presented with both the Americana Music Association's Artist of the Year Award and Song of the Year. In 2006, he was a Nominee for bluegrass Album of the Year for his album "Bluegrass".

The concert, "An Intimate Evening with Jim Lauderdale", will also feature Flat Rock singer/songwriter Tom Fisch as opener. Randy Houston and Tiffany Ervin of WTZQ radio will serve as emcees.

Proceeds from the concert will benefit the new Robin R. Farquhar YouTheatre Education Center being constructed at the Flat Rock Playhouse. YouTheatre students will perform at the concert.

General seating tickets are \$15. The concession stand will be open, serving a variety of beverages and snacks. Tickets are now on sale at Flat Rock Playhouse Box Office, Hand in Hand Gallery, Wrinkled Egg, Funky Bungalow Mosaic Co., Flat Rock Wine Shoppe, Diamond Rush, Garrison Family Denistry, Dean's Deli, and Henderson County Travel and Tourism.

Major sponsors of the concert are: Flat Rock Merchants Association, Kenmure, The Wrinkled Egg, WTZQ, Times-News, Henderson-

ville Printing, Flat Rock Cinema and Bold Life. The concert committee is still seeking individual and business sponsorships. Call Hand in Hand Gallery at 697-7719 or Apartments at Twin Oaks at 692-6379 to be a sponsor.

For more information, visit the website of the Flat Rock Merchants Association at www.flatrockonline.com. David Voorhees of Hand in Hand Gallery is the event coordinator. The Flat Rock merchants are pleased to assist with this important educational facility for the community.

FLAT ROCK MERCHANT NEWS AND NOTES

Bicentennial day will be a fun-filled day of history, entertainment, food and celebration. The Flat Rock Merchants Association members will be participating in this exciting celebration. Please stop in for a visit as you stroll around the village. Our members will be out early, blowing up the many balloons you will see that day. Other events and their locations include:

*On Little Rainbow Row, Hand in Hand Gallery will have demonstrations by a furniture maker, and coffee tasting of a new line of coffee called Counter Culture Coffee. Funky Bungalow Mosaic Company will be selling raffle tickets for an original mosaic by artist Kathy Skomsky.

*In the Flat Rock Post Office building, Diamond Rush will have a table set up for bracelet making. Pascal Reber, owner, will play bagpipes in front of the store several times that day.

*Across the street, Historic Flat Rock will be selling their new Bicentennial Christmas Ornament, the first in a series to benefit HFR. Galen Reuther will also have her book "Flat Rock" for sale. The Book Exchange will hold a sidewalk sale at the rear of the building.

*Singleton Centre businesses will participate as well. Steve Whiteside and Roger Cope will be performing on the deck of Flat Rock Guitar. Expressions! Photography will have an Open House with snack food and door prizes. Flat Rock Wine Shoppe will hold wine tastings all day.

*Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site will offer the 1850 Historic Connemara Walking Tours of the historic grounds at 10 AM, 11 AM, 2 PM, and 3 PM. Visitors will take a walk back in time to 1850 and learn about the early history of Connemara before the Sandburg's arrived. Tours are free and open to the public, but limited to 20 persons each. Tickets can be picked up on the day of the event at the park's Visitor Center in the historic home. For more information, please visit www.nps.gov/carl or call 828-693-4178.

*When lunch time comes, please stop by our hot dog stand. The Flat Rock Merchants Association will be selling hot dog lunches to benefit charitable projects.

*The Flat Rock Playhouse has several events for the bicentennial weekend. On Saturday, June 2, *Taking a Chance on Love*, will be on-stage. Performances are at 2:15 PM and 8:15 PM. Tickets are available at 828-693-0731.

*Finish off the day with a free concert that evening from 6-8 PM, on the back deck of the Wrinkled Egg. This is the first in the Summer Music Concert Series.

Bring a lawn chair. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. The featured musician is Rock Killough. The Summer Series Sponsor is Carolina First.

*For more information, visit the website of the Flat Rock Merchants Association at www.flatrockonline.com. In addition to the festivities in June, area merchants have more news items and events to share. Some of these include:

*Our association announces a new business. Zaven's Music & Fine Art Gallery, owned by Zaven Parsamyan, a professor & concert pianist, at Singleton Centre is offering piano lessons for the beginner to advanced student. The gallery also features art from European and local artists. The first of a series of exciting concerts will be Saturday, May 12 at 5 PM. Please call 828-298-6094 for more information and appointments.

*The Leitner Company has relocated to the Flat Rock Post Office building and is still offering the same professional services. They offer real estate appraisals and consulting.

*Sandburg Memorial Day, May 28, Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site off Little River Road in Flat Rock, NC hosts the annual Carl Sandburg Folk Music Festival. Featured artists include Eliza Lynn, the George Buckner Band, Tranthan Family Band, Angela Faye Martin and the Cole Mountain cloggers, among others. The event is free and open to the public. For more information please visit www.nps.gov/carl or call 828-693-4178.

*The Book Exchange, located on the first floor of the historic Old Flat Rock Post Office, is in need of volunteers. Volunteer just one day a month or, if you prefer, a half day.

The Book Exchange is a favorite source of used books (hard covers & paperbacks), magazines, greeting cards and note paper. All profits go to local charities. Our hours are 10-4, Monday through Saturday. Please consider this worthy cause. Call Ivy Cowell, 696-9149 or Jinny Bell, 698-0769.

*The Flat Rock Merchants Association is sponsoring the 2007 Summer Music Series. Carolina First is the Gold Level Business Sponsor for the entire series. These free concerts will be held the first Saturday of the month, May through October, on the back deck of the Wrinkled Egg from 6-8 PM. These are casual, family oriented, bring-your-lawn-chair outdoor concerts, weather permitting. Food by Flat Rock Village Bakery and beverages will be available for purchase. Off street parking will be designated with limited handicap accessibility. For further information, call Hand in Hand Gallery at 697-7719 or visit www.flatrockonline.com.

The 2007 Summer Music Series includes:

June 2—Rock Killough; sponsor: shops of Little Rainbow Row

July 7—Phil and Gaye Johnson; sponsor: Inns and Eateries of Flat Rock

August 4—Chris Rosser; sponsors: Diamond Rush, Flat Rock Playhouse, Garrison Family Dentistry

September 1—Michael Reno Harrell; sponsor: Singleton Centre businesses

October 6—Tom Fisch; sponsor: Hunter Chevrolet-Volvo-Subaru-Hyundai

*The summer season continues at the Flat Rock Playhouse. The Playhouse summer schedule includes *Taking a Chance on Love*,

Cinderella, Nuptials, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, and Harps and Harmonicas. Tickets and information for all events are available at 693-0731.

KUDZU TIME AGAIN

Ann Christenson

What is Kudzu?

Kudzu is an invasive Asian vine originally introduced as livestock forage and later was used to prevent agricultural erosion.

Kudzu has become an ecological threat. It has no natural enemies, a deep root system; it grows rapidly, and kills or degrades other plants by smothering and covering them with a heavy blanket of leaves.

The Flat Rock Village Kudzu Committee has arranged to treat Kudzu on village resident's private property again this summer. This project was started in 2002, and although much progress has been made, some areas must be retreated and new areas of Kudzu be identified.

If you have an area of Kudzu which has not been reported and you want it treated please contact the Village Office to sign up. The Village must obtain written permission from the property owner before it can be treated.

The Kudzu Committee will have a table at the Flat Rock Village Bicentennial Celebration with handouts, other educational materials, and a sign-up sheet.

Please call the Village Office at 697-8100 if you think that you have Kudzu on your property.

HISTORIC FLAT ROCK NEWS
Christmas Ornaments:

As a fund-raiser, Historic Flat Rock (HFR) is sponsoring the first in a series of Collector's Christmas Ornaments. The first ornament, available now, depicts the Old Flat Rock Post Office and is in commemoration of the 2007 Bicentennial of Flat Rock, NC. It is made of solid brass and comes packaged in a very nice gold and black suede pouch with a numbered and signed certificate stating the particulars of the ornament and some information about the work of Historic Flat Rock. If you would like to order one or more of these ornaments at \$20.00 each, please contact Brenda Hutcherson of HFR. Tel. #828-692-3113.

Ornaments will also be available at the Flat Rock 200th anniversary and Ice Cream Social on June 2, 2007. Please look for the HFR Booth.

Bicentennial Gala:

Historic Flat Rock's Bicentennial Gala will be held Saturday, July 28 at the private home of "Pinecrest" in Flat Rock at 6 PM. Tickets (\$85) are limited to members of Historic Flat Rock. Membership is available to all interested persons at \$25 for individuals, and \$35 for couples. For membership information, phone the office of Historic Flat Rock Inc. at 698-0030.

**FLAT ROCK WELCOMES
NEW RESIDENTS**

Effective June 1, 2007, Flat Rock welcomes our new residents from StatonWoods. Earlier in the year, 100% of the homeowners from StatonWoods petitioned the Village of Flat Rock for voluntary annexation. The City of Hendersonville and the Village of Flat Rock, through a cooperative effort, amended an existing annexation agreement. On May 10, 2007 the Village annexed the subdivision StatonWoods. We heartily welcome all the residents and look forward to their willingness to volunteer in the Village and share their time and talent for the greater good of the community.

BICENTENNIAL T-SHIRTS

T-shirts celebrating the 200 year anniversary of Flat Rock will be on sale June 2 from noon - 4:00 pm.

The price of the t-shirts will be \$15.00 with proceeds going to support Flat Rock Playhouse YouTheatre.

Village of Flat Rock
P.O. Box 1288
Flat Rock, NC 28731-1288

Schedule of Meetings

All monthly **Council Meetings** are on the **second Thursday** of each month, and will start at 9:30 AM.

Agenda Workshops are scheduled to start at 9:30 AM on the **Monday** 10 days prior to the Council Meeting, unless that Monday falls on a holiday.

The Planning Board meets the **first Tuesday** of each month from 9:15 AM until 11:30 AM.

The Board of Adjustment meets the **first Tuesday** monthly at 3:00 PM (if there are Agenda items).

Village of Flat Rock office hours are 9:00 AM—4:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

The Zoning Administration office hours are from 2:00 PM-4:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

The deadline for articles to be included in the September issue of "The Village Record" is August 9, 2007.

Village Directory

Mayor:

Ray E. Shaw, Jr. 698-2449

Council Members:

District 1

Robert V. Staton, Vice Mayor 696-4020

Nick Weedman 693-5300

District 2

Judy M. Boleman 698-8912

David Bucher 696-3269

District 3

Terry A. Hicks 697-9022

Jim Wert 693-0132

Village Clerk:

Rowena M. Sweezy 697-8100

Deputy Village Clerk:

Michelle D. Hill 697-8100

E-Mail Address:

vofr@bellsouth.net

Website:

villageofflatrock.org